

Claims:

1.(currently amended) A method of acquiring description data for broadcast audiovisual

content, the method comprising:

· a step (20, 22, 24) of acquiring and storing in a receiver terminal (12) at least one

initial information request comprising an address of at least one audiovisual

content description server (16);

· a step (26) of generating at least one information request on the basis of the

initial information request;

· a step (28) in which a the receiver terminal (12) transmits ~~at least one~~ the

information request to ~~at least one~~ the server (16) of audiovisual content

descriptions; and

· a step (30) of the receiver terminal (12) receiving description data supplied as a

function of elements of the request;

~~the method being characterized in that it includes a prior step (20, 22, 24) of  
acquiring and storing in the receiver terminal (12) at least one initial information  
request comprising the address of at least one audiovisual content description  
server (16) and a step (26) of generating the request on the basis of the  
previously acquired initial request.~~

2.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to claim 1,~~

~~characterized in that~~ The method of claim 1, wherein during the reception step

(30), audiovisual content description data is supplied as a function of a

relationship between at least one date and time associated with the request and the broadcast date and time of the audiovisual content.

3.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to claim 2,~~  
~~characterized in that~~ The method of claim 2, wherein the date and time associated  
with the request corresponds to the date and time at which the request is  
transmitted.

4.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of~~  
~~claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 1, wherein, the request as  
transmitted is identical to the initial request.

5.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of~~  
~~claims 2 to 4, characterized in that,~~ The method of claim 2, wherein during the  
request generation step (26), the initial request is extended by specifying at least  
one date and time.

6.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to claim 5,~~  
~~characterized in that,~~ The method of claim 5, wherein, during the reception step  
(30), the data supplied is that corresponding to audiovisual content broadcast at  
the date and time specified in the request.

- 7.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to claim 5 or claim 6, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 5, wherein during the request generation step (26), the initial request is expanded by specifying a number of content items, and in that during the reception step (30), the data supplied corresponds to the requested number of audiovisual content items broadcast starting from the date and time specified in the request.
- 8.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of claims 2 to 4, characterized in that,~~ The method of claim 2, wherein during the request generation step (26), the initial request is extended by specifying a time interval, and in that during reception step (30), the data supplied relates to audiovisual content broadcast in the time interval specified in the request.
- 9.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to claim 8,~~ characterized in that The method of claim 8, wherein the time interval is defined by a start date and time and by an end date and time.
- 10.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to claim 8,~~ characterized in that The method of claim 8, wherein the time interval is defined by a start date and time and by a duration.

- 11.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of~~  
~~claims 2 to 10, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 2, wherein during the  
request generation step (26), the initial request is extended by specifying  
keywords corresponding to the names of description elements for broadcast  
audiovisual content.
- 12.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of~~  
~~claims 2 to 11, characterized in that,~~ The method of claim 2, wherein following the  
step (30) of receiving description data, the method returns to the request  
generation step (26) in order to generate at least one new request associated with a  
new date and a new time corresponding to the end-of-broadcast date and time for  
the audiovisual content for which description data has just been received.
- 13.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of~~  
~~claims 1 to 12, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the step (20,  
22, 24) of acquiring and storing an initial request comprises downloading (20) said  
request from a description server (16).
- 14.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of~~  
~~claims 1 to 13, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the step (20,  
22, 24) of acquiring and storing an initial step comprises the receiver terminal (12)

receiving (22) said initial request via a signaling channel associated with an audiovisual content broadcast channel.

15.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the step (20, 22, 24) of acquiring and storing an initial request comprises a broadcast server (10) supplying (24) an SDP type file corresponding to an address field of a description server (16).

16.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of claims 1 to 15, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the description data is supplied in the form of an XML file.

17.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of claims 1 to 16, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the request is associated with a single audiovisual content broadcast channel.

18.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of claims 1 to 16, characterized in that,~~ The method of claim 1, wherein while generating (26) the request for transmission, a set of broadcast channels is defined, and in that during transmission step (28), as many requests are transmitted as there are broadcast channels specified in the request.

- 19.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition method according to any one of claims 1 to 18, characterized in that~~ The method of claim 1, wherein the request generation step comprises adding at least one selection criterion to the initial request.
- 20.(currently amended) A system for acquiring description data for broadcast audiovisual channel, the system comprising at least one receiver terminal (12) for receiving audiovisual content and at least one audiovisual content description server (16), ~~the system being characterized in that~~ the receiver terminal (12) ~~includes~~ including means for acquiring and storing at least one initial information request comprising the address of at least one description server (16), means for generating a request on the basis of the initial request, and means for transmitting said request to the description server, and in that the description server (16) includes means for transmitting to the receiver terminal (12) description data supplied as a function of the request.
- 21.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition system according to claim 20, characterized in that~~ The system of claim 20, wherein the description server (16) includes means for making an initial request available.

22.(currently amended) ~~A description data acquisition system according to claim 20 or claim 21, characterized in that~~ The system of claim 20, wherein the system includes at least one audiovisual content broadcast server (10), said server including means for transmitting initial requests together with the broadcast content.

23.(currently amended) An audiovisual content broadcast server (10) for implementing a description acquisition method ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 19, comprising:~~  
· a step (20, 22, 24) of acquiring and storing in a receiver terminal (12) at least one initial information request comprising an address of at least one audiovisual content description server (16);  
· a step (26) of generating at least one information request on the basis of the initial information request;  
· a step (28) in which a the receiver terminal (12) transmits the information request to the server (16) of audiovisual content descriptions; and  
· a step (30) of the receiver terminal (12) receiving description data supplied as a function of elements of the request;  
~~characterized in that it includes~~ the server including transmission means for transmitting initial requests together with the broadcast content.

24.(currently amended) ~~A broadcast server (10) according to claim 23, characterized in~~  
~~that~~ The server of claim 23, wherein the transmission means are regular  
transmission means.

25.(currently amended) A receiver terminal (12) for receiving audiovisual content to  
implement a description data acquisition method ~~according to any one of claims 1~~  
~~to 19, characterized in that it includes comprising:~~  
· a step (20, 22, 24) of acquiring and storing in a receiver terminal (12) at least one  
initial information request comprising an address of at least one audiovisual  
content description server (16);  
· a step (26) of generating at least one information request on the basis of the  
initial information request;  
· a step (28) in which a the receiver terminal (12) transmits the information request  
to the server (16) of audiovisual content descriptions; and  
· a step (30) of the receiver terminal (12) receiving description data supplied as a  
function of elements of the request;  
the receiver comprising means for storing an initial request and means for  
generating a request to be transmitted on the basis of the initial request.

26.(currently amended) An audiovisual content description server (16) for implementing  
a description data acquisition method ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 19, the~~  
~~server being characterized in that it includes comprising:~~



· a step (20, 22, 24) of acquiring and storing in a receiver terminal (12) at least one initial information request comprising an address of at least one audiovisual content description server (16);

· a step (26) of generating at least one information request on the basis of the initial information request;

· a step (28) in which a the receiver terminal (12) transmits the information request to the server (16) of audiovisual content descriptions; and

· a step (30) of the receiver terminal (12) receiving description data supplied as a function of elements of the request;

the server comprising means for making an initial request available.